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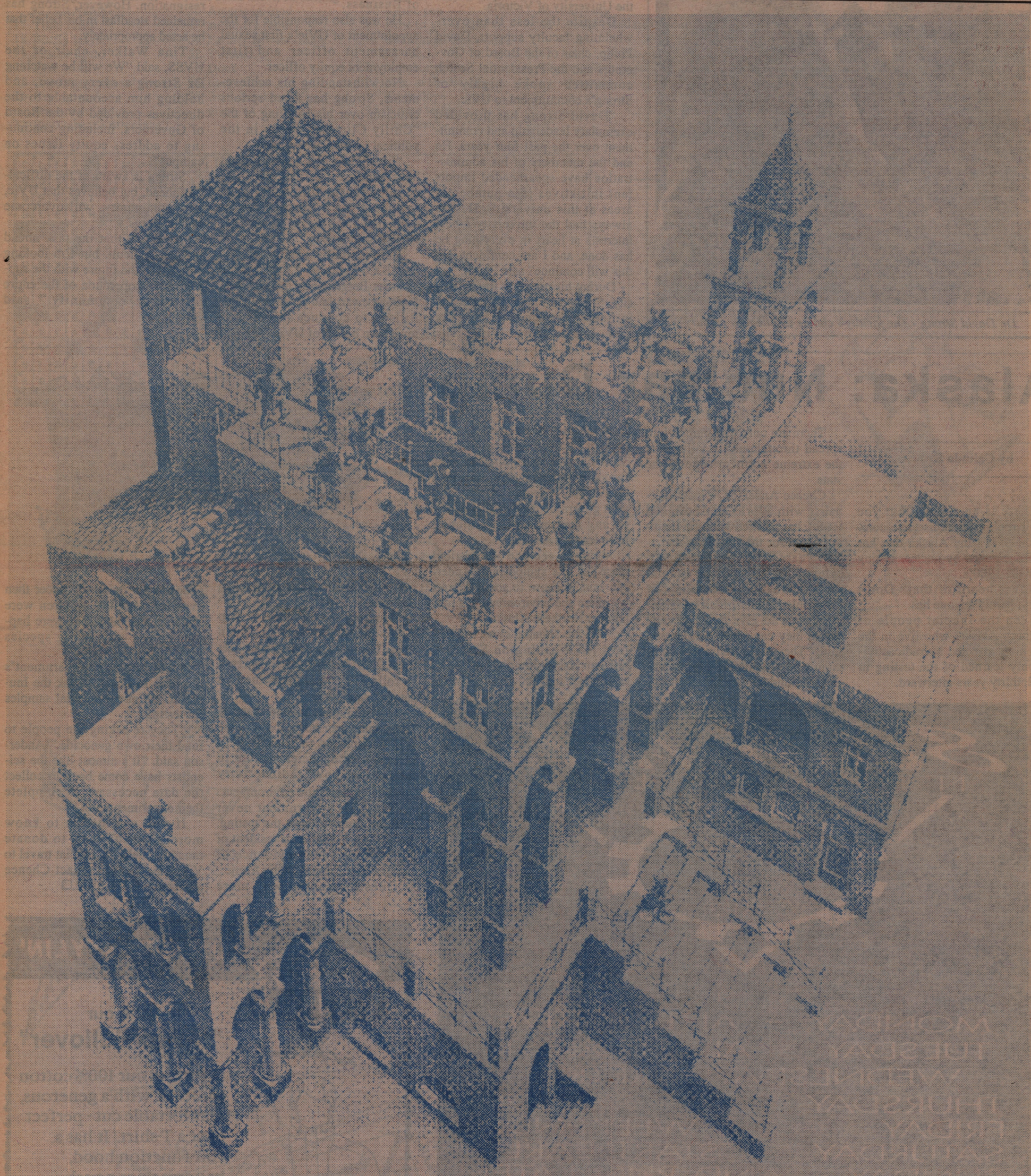
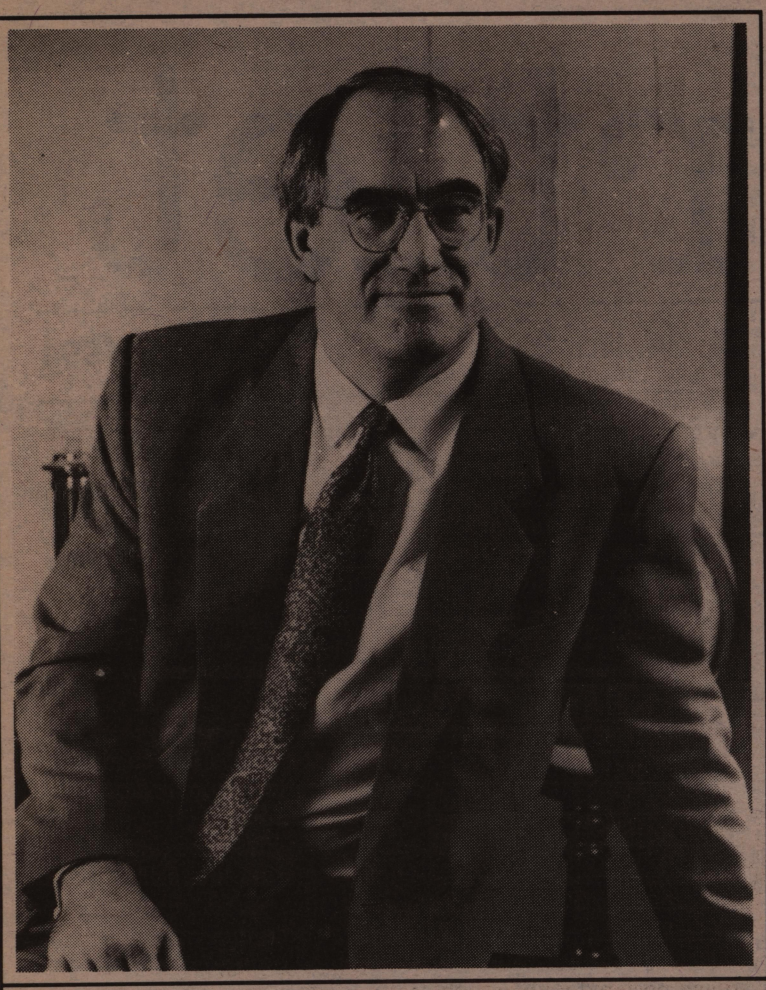
The Martlet

The student newspaper of the University of Victoria | Vol. 34, No. 3 | July 15, 1994



Information Highway... Commonwealth Games... Students Get Lost On Campus

news



Dr. David Strong - The faculty's choice till the new century

Strong looks ahead

by Michael Butterfield

After garnering 53.2 percent support amongst the voting faculty, Dr. David Strong has been offered a second term in office as President and Vice Chancellor of the University of Victoria.

Despite the less than overwhelming faculty support, David Philip, chair of the Board of Governors and the Presidential Search committee spoke highly of Strong's commitment to UVic.

"David Strong has provided exemplary leadership and commitment over the past four years. He and the members of his administration have spearheaded important initiatives in a number of areas at this university. He has always had the university's best interests at heart in everything he has done, and I am confident that this will continue" said Philip.

During his tenure at the university, Strong has been instrumental in finding the funds to build the new Engineering Wing, the expanded Student and Family Housing Complex, the new Visual Arts building, and the Graduate Student Society's facility.

And during his next term, Strong will oversee the completion of the new engineering laboratory building and the School of Business.

He was also responsible for the appointment of UVic's first sexual harassment officer and first employment equity officer.

Notwithstanding his achievements, Strong has faced serious criticism over his handling of the "Chilly Climate" fiasco in the political science department.

"I can't see how anyone could have handled it differently . . . I consulted many different groups including the Women's Centre and the Provincial Ombuds. Office" said Strong.

He eventually appointed former B.C. Supreme Court Justice Thomas Berger and University of Saskatchewan law professor Beth Billson to conduct an external review on behalf of UVic.

Strong expressed satisfaction with this report and its recommendations. "I have worked steadily to implement all ten of their recommendations, which I support completely," he said.

Some groups on campus, including the UVSS, have called for his resignation. However, Strong has remained steadfast in his belief that he acted appropriately.

Tina Walker, chair of the UVSS, said "We will be watching Dr Strong's every move, and holding him accountable to the directives provided by the Board of Governors, including continuing to address equity issues on campus".

Strong is aware of the difficulties ahead, but believes that UVic, as a community, will overcome its problems.

"I realize that the task ahead will be difficult, but I'm looking forward to the future with the support and cooperation of the entire university community," said Strong.❑

Alaska: Nuclear Dump

by Calinda Brown

There is an Alaska that you won't see on the cruise line commercials. It's the Alaska that has been decimated by nuclear testing since the 1960's.

Never heard of that? Don't worry, hardly anyone has.

Even the Inupiat people of Northern Alaska, who live in the area most affected by radioactivity, only learned of the testing in 1992, thirty years afterward.

There are only 650 Inupiat left, spread throughout six villages at the extreme northern edge of the state.

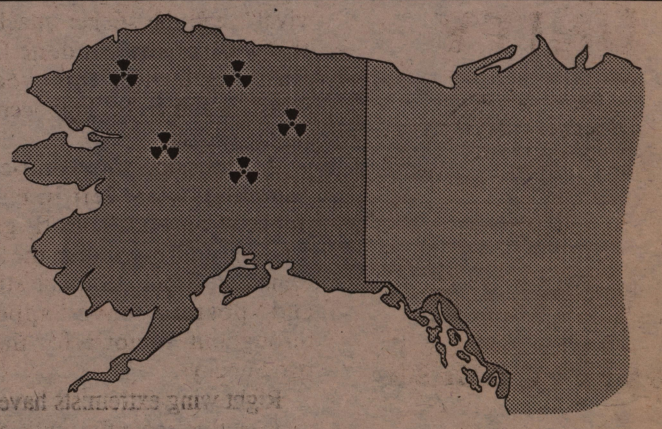
Chenee Anderson, a local journalist with World of Aboriginal Radio, has worked with the Inupiat people for the last three-and a-half years. She is organizing a symposium to help the Inupiat raise international awareness of the problems facing their people.

"I want to give them a venue where they can speak," Anderson said. "They are a traditional community representative of communities around the world."

Anderson has raised $1,200, enough for one person to travel to Victoria. She had hoped to have the symposium July 15, but a just-announced schedule of meetings with government officials prevented any members of the Inupiat from leaving Alaska.

Victoria seemed the logical place for this symposium, Anderson said, because to some degree, we share the environmental problems as Northern Alaska.

"We are situated close to Hanford [in Washington State], a nuclear waste dump. Hanford is considered unsafe. And the transportation of this stuff is through our waters."



"Nothing can be done to stop it, so much damage has been done. We must become aware, get them [U.S. Department of Energy] to follow the guidelines they've set up," said Anderson.

In 1962, contaminated material from American nuclear test sites was transported to Alaska. U.S. government agencies wanted to determine how radioactivity spreads in the Arctic environment.

The U.S. government never told the Inupiat about the testing. In 1992 Jack Shaffer, a resident of Point Hope found evidence of nuclear experiments in the Arctic.

Questions about why more people were dying of cancer then ever before, more children were stillborn and mutations were happening to every living species were finally answered.

So far the U.S. government's response has been to ask the Inupiat to get environmental samples for testing.

"They're asking the people to fund their own genocide," Anderson said. "It's almost like the scientists have come back to collect the data necessary to complete their experimentation."

If you would like to know more, or would like to donate money to help the Inupiat travel to Victoria, please contact Chenee Anderson at 721-8702.❑

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Jokes stir up internet

by Calinda Brown

Students have called on the UVSS for the withdrawal of operating funds from The Men's Club.

The call stems from an article, "Helpful Tips: 80 Popular Pick-up Lines" that The Men's Club posted on its newsgroup, a discussion forum on the Internet.

Most students talked to think that some of the lines sound more like hate-related graffiti than ways to make a good first impression.

These lines include: "If you ever want to see your children again, you'll do what I want," "I would kill to make love to you," "Sex is a killer, so die happy," "You know, I'd really like to fuck your brains out."

People are asking just what The Men's Club is out to do and if the UVSS should be supporting a club that may be promoting violence against women.

"If it's not a slap or a pinch, they don't see it as harassment"

Chris Vance, a fourth-year student who subscribes to the newsgroup, felt very uncomfortable reading the list. He wrote a letter to the UVSS asking that The Men's Club funding be revoked.

"Some of the lines were pretty violent, not jokes," he said. "My problem is not me reading the list. My problem is that The Men's Club is reading it. I fear it will promote someone to harass or to sexually assault women."

Liz Nash, president of the CFUV Student Radio Society, agreed.

She read Vance's letter at the Gloria Steinem talk, July 7 to a concerned audience.

"[Violence against women] is a prevalent problem in our society. Men don't understand the subtlety. If it's not a slap or a pinch they don't see it as harassment," she said.

She wondered why a club formed to promote men's issues and be a support group for men would practice sexism.

"Sure, their mandate sounded great on paper but then their real attitude came out," Nash said.

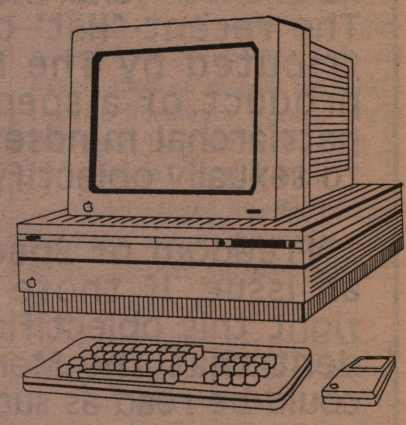
She also thinks the club's funding should be revoked.

"The boys can joke around with their own money, not mine," she said.

Robyn Blaber, president of the Men's Club, was surprised by The response to the article.

"At first glance, it [the list] seemed funny to me. And because traditionally pick-up lines have been used by men, I made the rash assumption the readers of The Men's Club newsgroups would also find it funny," he said.

Blaber said many people had told him they found the article funny. He thinks individuals



should be allowed to make that decision.

"Some lines were funny, some were offensive, some didn't make sense," he said. "I left it to readers to judge the merit of the article.

Questioned about individual lines, Blaber admitted that they might be less than humorous.

"To overanalyze...any of the lines could anger me or anyone. I did not find [some lines] funny and in the context of the debate that has ensued, I no longer find any of the lines funny. As a result, I chose to cancel the article. Had it been of a defensible nature, I would neither have cancelled it or criticized it," he said. "There were no intentions of offending for the sake of offending."

However, Blaber does not promise to prevent more offensive material from being published.

"I am sorry that the article that raised this much furore is not of a nature I would be prepared to defend. But I reserve the right to print material that some may find offensive, as it is my ethical responsibility to the Students' Society," he said.

Blaber feels that any information, even if offensive, that is made to create constructive discussion is justified and ethical.

He hopes that belief won't be

Cont'd on page 9

Racist factions recruit

WHITE UNITY

WHITE SURVIVAL

by Michael Gardiner

"White Unity - White Survival" read the sticker attached to the wall of the Student Union Building earlier this week. A swastika and an SS logo were also on the sticker.

At the same time, anti-choice pamphlets were left in campus publication boxes. Both gave a mailing address under the name Canadian Front. Similar stickers and posters have appeared throughout Victoria for the last two Sundays.

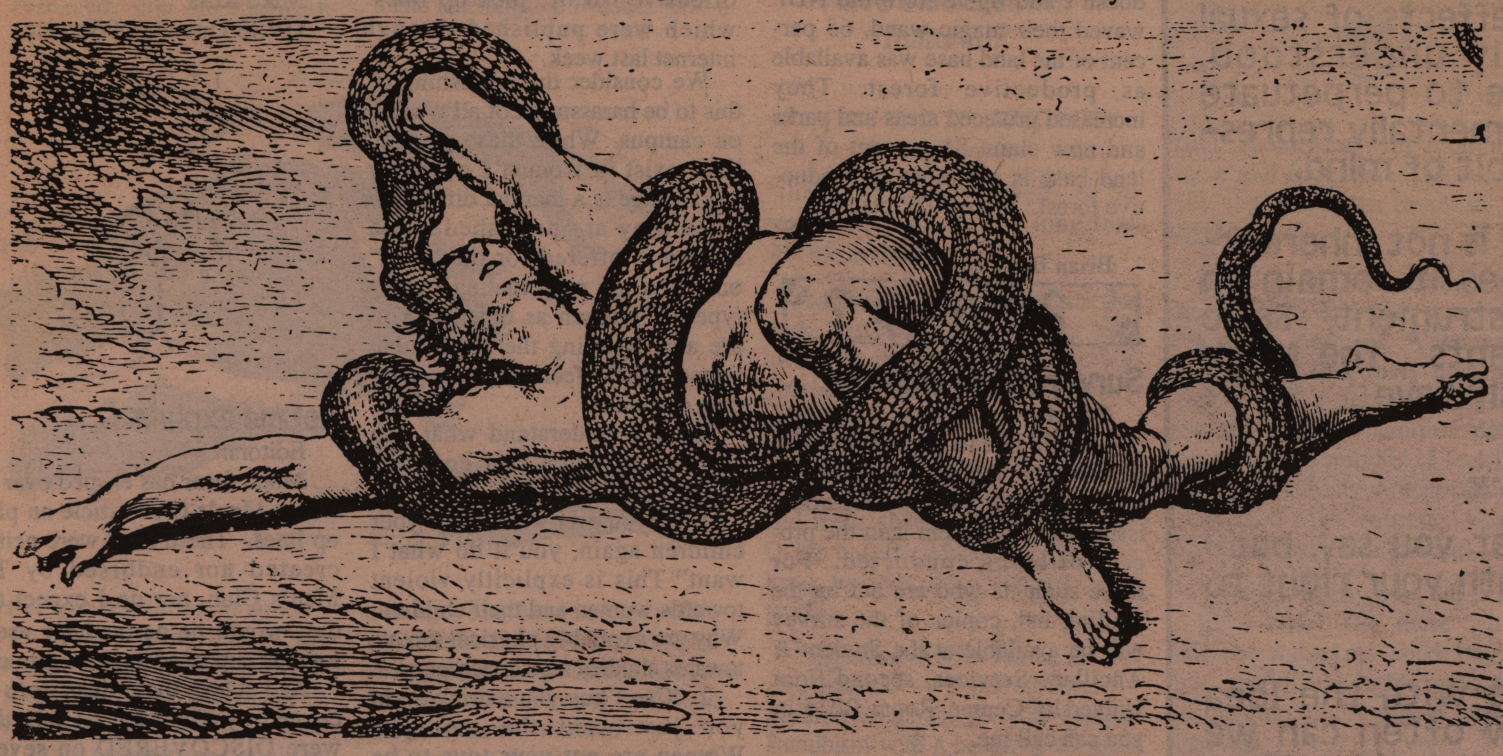
Right wing extremists have been more active recently, with public forums on western Christian separatism held by Victoria lawyer Doug Christie. The events mentioned above appear to be an attempt to recruit new members to the Nazi movement in Victoria through the use of a post office box.

"The extreme right are capitalizing on current joblessness and discontent in their attempt to perpetuate hate and bigotry," said one man, who would not give his name, after scraping a Canadian Front sticker reading "Multiculturalism is a National Disease" off a downtown wall. "Even the Liberal Government is joining the ignorant attack on immigrants."

In a related incident, Everywoman's Bookstore was vandalized and postered with anti-choice propaganda, bearing the same address as the material found at UVic. A woman, who also would not give her name, saw the posters on her way to work.

"I think these desperate tactics demonstrate that the anti-choice movement is quickly losing support. I believe it is a concession that they have lost any substantial mainstream support and must now play on people's hatred to recruit members."

Both Doug Christie and the 'Pro-life' Society of Victoria were unavailable for comment.



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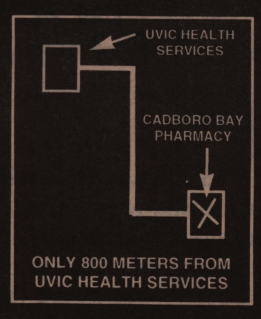

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opinion

EDITORIAL

And they said...

The freedom to speak has the power to silence – and the power to subject. The recent "list" collected and distributed by The Men's Club is the product of a specific mindset: the patriarchal mindset which continues to sexually objectify women.

"Freedom of Speech" would not be an issue, if those who continue to fight this objectification were confident that The Men's Club's message could be read as such. However, this is not yet the case.

It is easy to deconstruct this message at a presentation by Gloria Steinem, when an auditorium is filled with over 1000 individuals already predisposed to recognize its source. But in the smoky recesses of a club, in the classroom, on a city bus, on INTERNET, the story is very different.

The crux of "Freedom of Speech," rests in our capacity to analyze the implications of what is said, beyond the end of our own ... nose. The critical question is what is at stake? In answering, we must pinpoint whose interests are really served by the freedom to speak.

Until this critical practice is widespread, and the effects of sexual objectification truly understood, these "gestures" serve to perpetuate and normalize a fundamentally repressive and dangerous habit of mind.

"Freedom of Speech" is not inherently damaging, nor does it remain an inherently neutral instrument. Seize your critical instruments. The Men's Club members obviously have.❑

And they said...

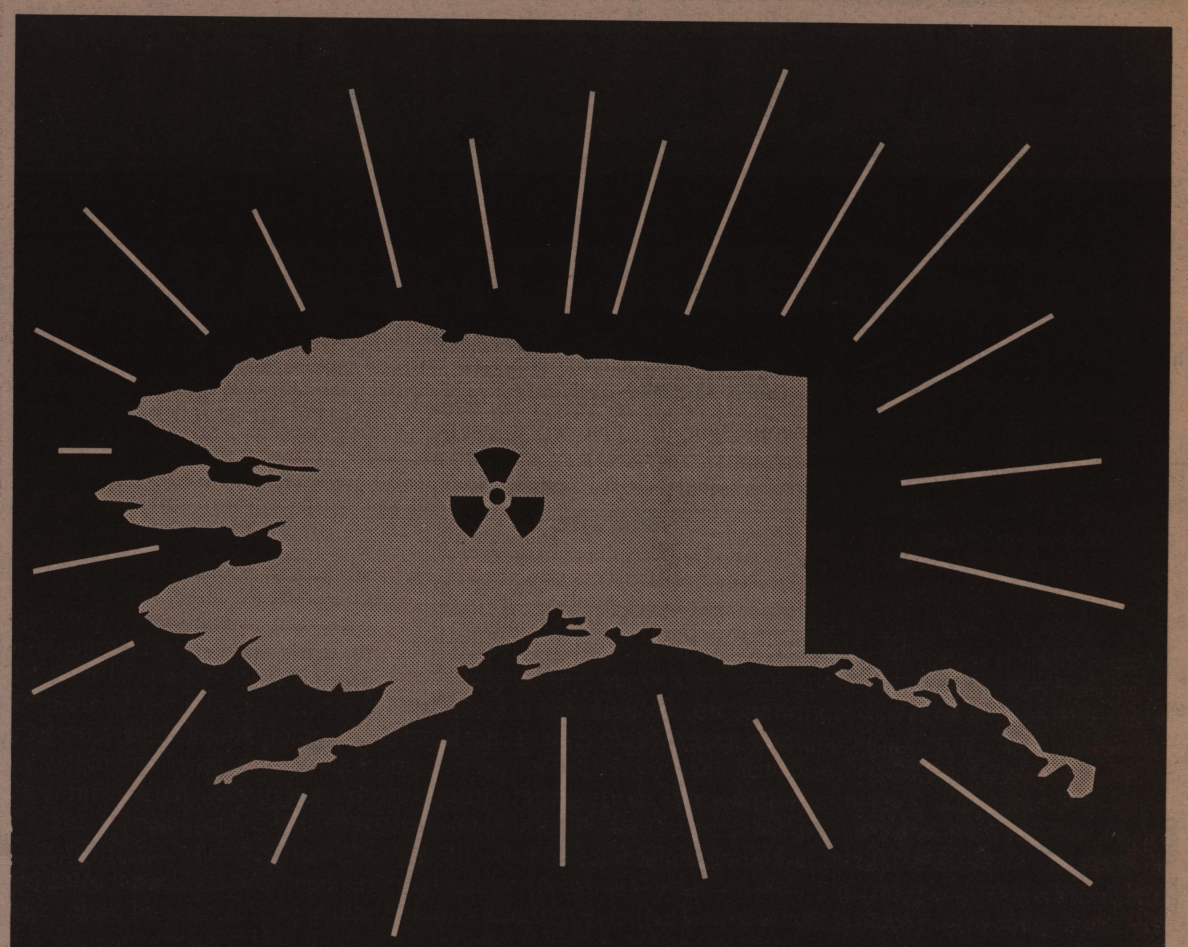
"I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." Voltaire

While we may agree with the idea presented above, how often can we practice it. The Men's Club jokes illustrate that fact that there are plenty of people out there with other views than ours. But also that there will be times that these views are simply different than ours, not right or wrong, just different.

We should be careful that in our zeal to bring about a better world we don't trample some of the freedoms all should enjoy.

Just a friendly caution, so that we never become censured for holding a view currently out of favor.❑

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at editorial meetings, which happen every Monday at 4p.m. in the Martlet *office. Editorials are written by one or more staffers; opinions are not necessarily those of the* Martlet *or all staff.*



ALASKA AT NIGHT

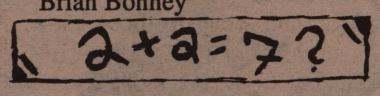
The *Martlet* has an open letters policy and will undertake to print every letter received from members of the university community. Letters must be **TYPEWRITTEN** (you can use *Martlet* machines), double spaced and include your name, student number and a phone number for verification. **LETTERS MUST BE 250 WORDS MAXIMUM.** Editors reserve the right to edit ruthlessly for length and libelous content. Deadline is Monday 10 am. Letters will be priorized in the order received. Only one submission from the same person will be printed per week. Letters with pseudonyms will not be printed. Letters will not be edited for spelling or grammar.

Mikey's magic tricks

Editors:

Excuse me, but Harcourt's Vancouver Island, Land Math doesn't add up! Before the NDP waved their magic wand, 65 percent of the land base was available as productive forest. They increased proteced areas and parks and now claim 81 percent of the land base is available as productive forest. More NDP magic!

Brian Bonney



Survey needs answers

Editors:

I would like to let students with disabilities (visible and/or invisible) know that a survey regarding issues affecting them is in the process of being conducted. For those students who are not on the mailing list, copies of the survey will be available at the Student & Ancillary Services, second floor University Center, Room B215 or you can call me.

While completing this survey is entirely voluntary, I do stress the importance of having as many as possible participate. Through this survey important information will be gathered about what students with a disability need in order to access all avenues and complete their education without undue hardship.

This survey has been designed with the disabled student's point of view in mind and the UVIC's Association of Disabled Students has been actively involved in the process. Please, do take the time as this is an opportunity to voice your opinion and give constructive input as to the changes you would like to see happen. You are doing this for yourself and for the many students who will attend UVIC in the future. If you need assistance in any way, feel free to contact me at 721-2793.

Dee Remmelts
President - ADS

Poison pick-ups

Editors:

An open letter to the men's club.

This is a letter regarding your offensive list of "pick up lines" which were published through internet last week.

We consider the publishing of this to be harassment of all women on campus. While these pick up lines exist in women's everyday world there is a marked difference when they are published and a reward is offered for the "best" one. You are perpetuating stereotypes of women as objects. You are also ignoring the reality that women think, feel and make their own decisions.

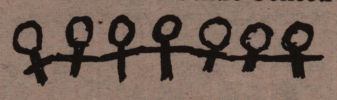
Do you understand what you are saying when you condone and advocate:

1. "If you ever want to see your children again, you'll do what I want" This is explicitly violent towards women and their children. Why are explicitly physical threats towards children seen as acceptable?

2. "Can I buy you a drink or do you just want the money?" Women are not your toys to be bought. We choose with whom we associate.

You have targeted women. The act of publishing this list is violence against women and poisons our environment. Is this your purpose?

The Women's Centre Collective

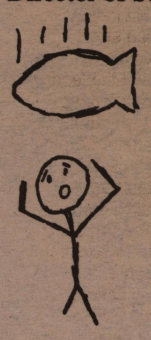


E-male problem

Editors:

The UVSS wishes to clarify some misinformation presented publicly regarding the Men's Club computer newsgroup. While the Students' Society was aware that the Men's Club had a UVic computer account; we were, until Monday, unaware of the information posted through their newsgroup. Some of the materials posted are misogynist and hateful and repugnant to the values of the Students' Society. In no way did we intend to allow this to occur and the Men's Club will be disciplined accordingly.

Miko Ross
UVSS Director of Services



Let me explain

Editors:

Much furor has ensued over the recent Men's Club article on pick-up lines. These lines were neither created nor endorsed by The Men's Club, nor do I expect that they would be particularly useful for their supposed intended purpose.

As I stated, these lines were not created by The Men's Club, they were DISCOVERED on several newsgroups which deal with men's issues in MUCH less of a controlled environment than this newsgroup. It was I who deemed the article to be of interest to the readers and subsequently cross-posted it to this group.

Because this has raised a question of ethics of a sort that The Men's Club was not founded to debate and the fact that the environment in which the article has found itself has caused it to greatly lose it's admittedly marginal humour, the article will be canceled. Further discussion of an official nature from The Men's Club shall be limited to questions of FREEDOM of SPEECH and the UVSS's right to censorship.

The Men's Club shall further endeavor to print any praise or criticism of it's actions in the form of a letter to the editor, provided the letter is no more inflammatory than the article that it is criticizing. If it was the goal of the members

opinion

The Martlet

Quote of the week:
"Actually, about 8,400,000 hectares of ancient temperate rainforest remain intact along the coast of BC. This represents about 80 per cent of our province's original stands."
Forest Alliance of BC

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The Martlet is an incorparated BC Society and a full member of Canadian University Press (CUP). Our purpose is to act as an agent of constructive social change and we will not print sexist, racist or homophobic copy.

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of the club to impose misogynous material upon the good people of this university, it would of course have been done in an anonymous fashion without a person such as myself available to accept responsibility.

The Men's Club is dedicated to promote men's issues and would like to take this time to advise its subscribers that persons feminist agenda may find certain articles on uvic.clubs.mens to contravene their system of beliefs. For those people who fear that they might be offended by such issues ranging from abortion, men's rights, father's rights, the role of males in society, or any other such topic in which men are the unalienable focus of concern, please unsubscribe to this newsgroup immediately. The Men's Club will not be able to accommodate every reader from every political or sexual point of view.

Letters to the editor(s) of uvic.clubs.mens may be addressed to mensclub@sol.uvic.ca or deposited in The Men's Club mailbox in the SUB. The editors reserve the right to comment, but will endeavor to exercise empathy toward alternative viewpoints surrounding this issue.

Robyn Blaber
President of The Men's Club

Dorian who?

Editors:

There is an aspect of this university that outrages me and I feel it needs to be brought forth. Well actually, there are many aspect that concern me but this is a pressing issue, one that is crying to be heard. The problem concerns the suppression of certain cultures.

While our programs are full of the History of the United States, Europe, Rome, India, China, Japan and other cultures, where are those cultures, no less valid but not as able to maintain their identity from insurgent ideas?

Why don't we teach the History and culture of Easter Island, Toltecs, Minoans, the Doarians, the Ammonites and the teachings from Llyonese.

These cultures, their diversity and ideas are lost to us simply because they directly impact on us as ancestors. Does this mean that the only idea worth knowing are the ones that brought us to this state of society? Such a notion makes my scalp itch.

For once, let the University of Victoria lead the way in cultural consciousness and dare to look at something a little different.

Only when we bring these cultures back into our curriculum can we truly represent a balanced university.

Mike McClung

Umm....Uh.....Yeah!

Editors:

Why are you trying to alter my choices over the tomato, I like store bought tomatoes, I like dry beer, wonderloaf and pop music. I understand that the marlet is intent on altering every aspect of the students here that they can, but attacking the beer I drink seems a little strange.

First, aren't there other social issues that the Marlet can be attacking, sexism, racism, other isms. Are things really so peachy in the world that dry beer becomes social taboo #1? It also brings me to wonder why the marlet is spending our student fees to study the drepavity of Sound Bites. Maybe those of us who like Liquid Television can get our fees back.

Oh yes, the second point, why do I buy the tomato, because it is cheap. And if they have to genetically alter it to bring it to me for 59 cents instead of $3.00 then bring on the mutant tomatoes.

Another miscellaneous grip I have is what are all these pathetic drawings, and what do those cartoons mean anyway. I would think that with all the money you are dragging us in debt you could spring for paying an art student a couple bucks to draw something I can recognize(what is that thing on page 6?).

Sam Smithers

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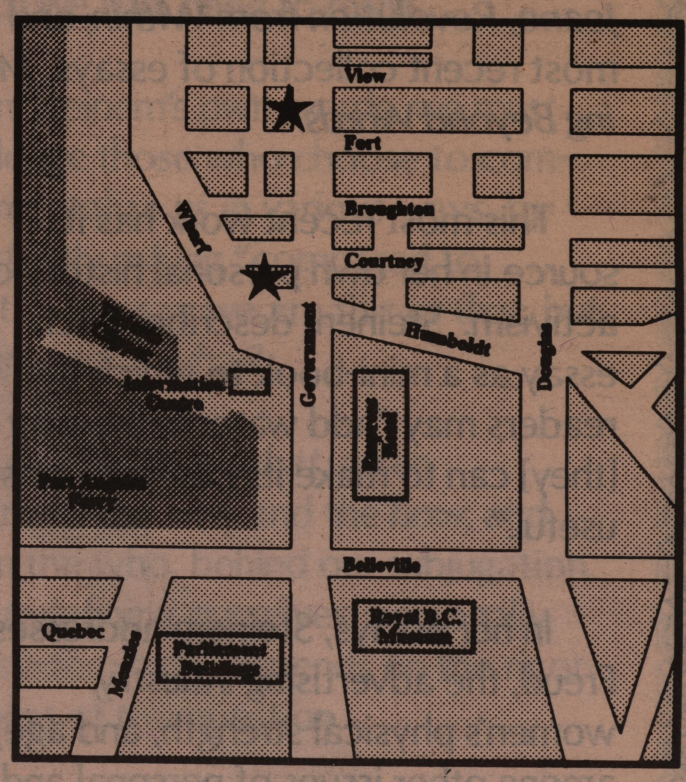

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"The context is all, and liberal feminism is one example"

Long-time feminist and writer Gloria Steinem spoke before a sold-out crowd at the UVic Centre Auditorium July 7. The evening's objective was two-fold: to promote her most recent book *Moving Beyond Words*, and to open the floor to "collective organizing," allowing anyone to comment, question, or announce local awareness and fundraising events.

Steinem has primarily translated her political activism as a writer. Of her four major books, perhaps her most well-known is *Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions*, a title which resonated in the autograph line. Her other titles include *Marilyn: Norma Jeane*, *Revolution from Within*, and her most recent collection of essays, *Moving Beyond Words*.

This most recent work has its source in her own personal history of activism. Steinem describes each essay as a mini-book to which the readers may "add water in the way [they] can to make its contents most useful."

In her essays, Steinem addresses Freud, the advertising industry, women's physical strength, and age, among other issues of personal and political interest. Having just turned sixty, Steinem concludes her book with an exploration of the freedom involved with "the end of the feminine role," a statement which some readers may wish to challenge.

In tackling her most frequently asked questions, Steinem understandably resists defining feminism: instead, she maintains that it lives "in the hearts of each individual woman and man."

Her feminism has room for a plurality of perspectives, including a place for men. Her emphasis on each individual's feminism, however, does leave the possibility for collective political action on indeterminate ground.

Steinem is what some feminist theorists would describe as a *liberal* feminist. She speaks from a decidedly white, upper class, professional [privileged] position. And her position is on one level consistent with the feminism of our mothers' and grandmothers' generations - when getting a larger slice of the *existing* political, social and economic pie was an essential stepping stone to "equality."

Many feminists view this perspective as feeding into patriarchal institutional structures, *as they exist*, rather than challenging the structures themselves. However, Steinem stressed that the foundation established through such discourse cannot be overlooked.

She maintains that an accurate awareness of feminist history is "important, so we aren't subject to the feeling that the movement is over." Establishing a sense of the "scope and pattern" of feminism and its advances can help us to "pace" our current activism, and make institutional change an ongoing commitment.

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Gloria Steinem has

been in the lives of a great number of women. Admitting I was relatively new to feminism, I suddenly had a book list a mile long of other writers I should consult, writers who had been equally influential in awakening the women around me to themselves, and to the feminist movement.

I suddenly forced myself to put my theoretical hat away, to appreciate what was happening around me. As women from 15 to 75 stood up to share personal awakenings, postulate the future of feminism, make open invitations to awareness events, I could not ignore the profound role of "awakening" that *liberal* feminism, as one branch of the feminist movement, has exercised.

As Tina Walker, UVSS chair and member of the Women's Centre Collective commented, Steinem's perspective has made feminism "acceptable" and accessible to a wider group. She stands as a figure many women can identify with, more so than other representatives of the feminist movement.

Some would argue making feminism "accessible" is potentially damaging for the feminist cause: in making feminist objectives socially 'acceptable', we run the risk of opening them to appropriation (and hence neutralization) by the patriarchal powers that be.

This is where *what's relative* comes in. Feminism involves a multitude of stances; some of which lend themselves to cohesive political action more than others, some of which can grant self-esteem for the first time, some of which can open spiritual, sexual, political or economic doors that have been shut against us.

There is potential in each position: the key is to recognize its practical political limitations. We should give credence to particular feminist perspectives based on their particular sphere of influence, rather than measuring them along a linear (and suspiciously patriarchal) continuum of success.

Media have had a field day playing up this kind of dialogue as the so-called "divisiveness" of feminism, designating different "factions," and slotting them into a conveniently and importantly patriarchal model of competition. This is a definition that feminism constantly exceeds, and one which we too, need to resist.

In Steinem's own words, we must challenge those who choose to compartmentalize us in various ways, by constantly asking "compared to what"? You say we are this or that, but *compared to what*?

Locating that *what*, often illustrates the why and the how, and often the who, behind our subjugation. And redefining ourselves, personally and systemically, depends on the rigorousness of this question.

In addition to a feminist lecturer and organizer, Gloria Steinem is the consulting editor of Ms. Magazine, which she co-founded in 1972, and an active contributor to the Ms. Foundation for Women, a multi-issue women's fund, and Voters for Choice, a nonpartisan political committee.

by Christine Ewart

Leisure

Changing face of rowing

Photo by Sean Chisholm

Rowers Sandy Bridges and Shirley Sukkel make ready their shell.

by Michael Butterfield

For the 100 years or so rowing has been a competitive sport, it has been dominated by male athletes.

But, things have changed.

As little as ten years ago, Rowing Canada reported that the typical new rower was a male aged seventeen. Now that demographic has changed drastically; in 1994 the new rower is female and in her mid thirties.

Victoria's local rowing club, Victoria City Rowing Club (VCRC) at Elk Lake, has witnessed this change first hand.

"I actually believe women in that age group are more apt to seek out and try new things than males in their same age group. Since the opportunity of rowing is there they are more likely to try it than males," said Steve Frisch, senior rowing coach for the VCRC.

The attraction of this sport for most women seems to be the ease with which it can be learned. Ian Moyer, a VCRC learn-to-row coach, said "It's easy to pick up . . unlike a lot of other sports you don't have to be a super athlete . . at the recreational level you can start off at your own level and progress at your own rate . . . so, you hardly ever have injuries".

Sandy Bridges, a 33 year old employee of the BC Systems Corp, decided to try rowing after her company took advantage of VCRC's Corporate Challenge.

"I'm here strictly for the fun."

The Corporate challenge program allowed companies or groups to put together nine employees to form a crew. This crew would be taught the fundamentals of rowing and then, at the end of the course, would compete against other Corporate Challenge crews in a mini regatta.

Unfortunately, Bridges missed the chance to be a part of her company's crew. But, she decided to learn to row after listening to her fellow employees. "We kind of felt left out of the fun . . . I'm here for a lot of fun and some exercise" said Bridges.

35 year old Shirley Sukkel agreed with her friend, "I'm here strictly for the fun".

The VCRC learn-to-row program is open to all ages and consists of two parts. Level one concentrates on safety, equipment, and basic rowing technique. Level two develops the individual's style and technique. Each level costs $90.00 and is taught over five two-hour sessions by certified instructors.

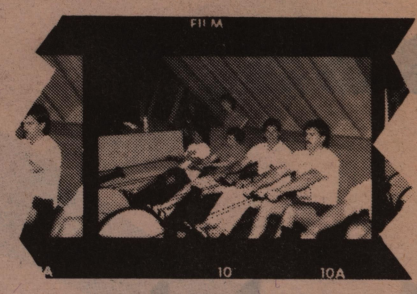
Twenty-five-year-old student and bank employee Bonnie Bradley joined rowing as a means to improve her fitness. "I wanted to start doing something, but jogging was too painful . . . my boyfriend, who'd rowed at University, suggested rowing".

Bradley started off slowly, with rowing and a little cycling, and after a month found her fitness improving. "I have asthma so it's hard to get started on an exercise program . . . I took the first learn-to-row course and found myself to have a lot more energy . . . I'm now taking the second part of the course and have started biking to work and biking out to the lake, even after working a nine hour shift at the bank".

"I wanted to start doing something, but jogging was too painful."

Men have not disappeared completely from the rowing scene - in fact the numbers of older men learning to row has also increased- but with more women registered with Rowing Canada than men, the old stereotype will have to change.

Further information about rowing is available from VCRC @ 658-5331.❑



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The Commanding Self is an anthology of previously unpublished work, based on tales, lectures, letters and interviews. It offers both an introduction to Sufi thought and further study for those already acquainted with Shah's work.

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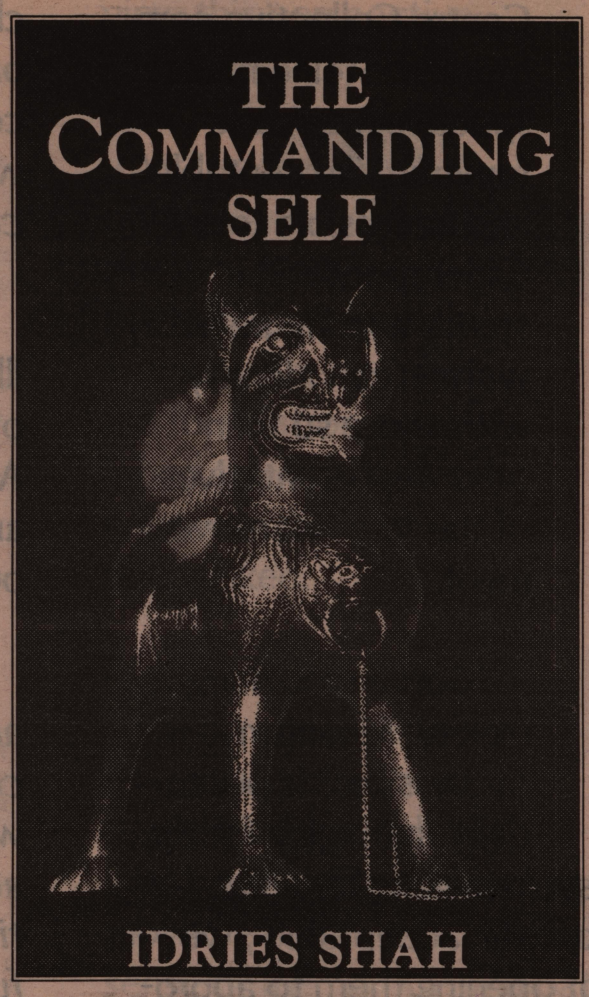
— Doris Lessing



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arts and review

Discovering Idries Shah

by P. K. Page

The Commanding Self
by Idries Shah
Octagon Press, 1994

Idries Shah's books defy categorization, and in so-doing deal a deft blow to the labeller in us. In this respect, The Commanding Self is no different from the others.

Is it anthropology? Psychology? Sociology? Philosophy? All of the above. And a great deal more, besides.

Part of this 'more' introduces us to the self of the title - the commanding self. Those who imagine this to be our cool, competent and collected self, our best-foot-forward-self, must think again.

Shah uses the phrase to describe that 'mixture of primitive and conditioned responses, common to everyone, which inhibits and distorts human progress.' He shows us that this self is not our friend; rather, he helps us recognize it as our enemy - a built-in, invisible part of us, with blood in its eye.

To learn about its origins, its behaviour, and how we can prevent it from destroying both us and our society, is one of the rewards offered by this many-faceted book. There are others.

For instance, as the leading modern exponent of Sufism, Shah tells us what Sufism is and what it is not: it is an educational activity, it is not a recruitment agency.

His view of history is longer and broader than that of most historians. By analogy he guides us to ask if perhaps we are as one-eyed today as the flat earthers were in their day for the same reason: lack of information.

From his previous works - some 30 of them in as many years - we have discovered, among other things, that Western chemistry was launched in the 8th century; that atomic power was understood in the 12th and that the theory of evolution predates Darwin by almost 700 years.

The Commanding Self is a collection of tales, lectures, question-and-answer sessions, letters and interviews. It holds spirituality up to a bright light, making clear how it differs from emotionality and intellect. It is a humourous, muscled book and it is almost certain to make us examine our sacred cows.

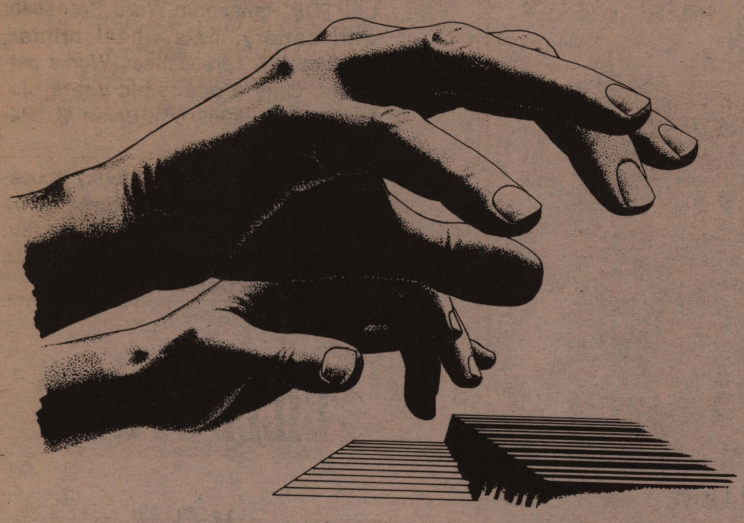
P.K. Page is one of Canada's most distinguished poets, whose published works also include fiction and non-fiction. She has received the Governor-General's Award for poetry and the Ruth Schwartz Award for her book, A Flask of Sea-Water. The sequel, The Goat That Flew, has just been published, and her play, Unless the Eye Catch Fire, recently premiered in Victoria, where she resides. ❑

Return to the Beast

By Hugh John Murray

Ill Communication
Beastie Boys
EMI
1994

If you were like me, back in 1992 when Check Your Head was released, you surrendered



yourself to a revelation of sorts.

You became skeptical of the hype and wary of the Beastie Boys' frat party irreverence (It dates back to their debut *License to Ill* and subsequently skips 1989's *Paul's Boutique*, too).

But you also found yourself with a raw, energetic recording that was as diverse as it was good.

Funky, hard and angry — it was us.

So it comes as no surprise that Adrock, Mike D., and MCA — back at the mike and in the studio — have released a heady collection of eclectic grooves in the Beastie Boys' fourth release, *Ill Communication.* Lifting you to new heights of spirituality, it is akin to shaking the hand of the big Beastie himself. (Take your pick of any of the three.)

It's hard not to sound too effusive in describing the Beasties' latest album, but it's *really* good. *Ill Communication* is a panoply of styles: mingling jazz, 70's psychedelic funk, peripatetic hip-hop and caustic punk. The songs are a litany of diversity... and depth.

The indefatigable Beasties have a message. The band tackles politics, social injustice, environmental mismanagement and spirituality. Have the Beasties — champions of the in-your-face subculture — *matured*?

Consider these lines from the opening track, "Sure Shot," that deals with a variety of issues that piss the B-Boys off: "I want to say a little something that's long overdue/The disrespect to women has got to be through/To all the mothers and the sisters and the wives and the friends/I want to offer my love and respect till the end."

Surprised? There's more where that came from. "The Update" looks at the dismal state of today's polluted earth, reminding us that

Have the Beasties... *matured?*

"the mother earth needs to be respected/Been far too long that she's been neglected."

Admittedly, I'm attracted to the dark, distorted recalcitrance that swills in the Beasties' complex persona. Hip-hop elements have never held much weight with me.

But the hip-hop that surfaces on *Ill Communication* is sprightly and fresh, thanks to guest rappers Q-Tip and Biz Markie. (They also lend validation from the rap world).

"Bodhisattva Vow" is by far the most unique — if not cerebral — track on the album. Its lyrics explore Buddhism with a backdrop of sampled Tibetan monk chants, crashing chimes and gongs.

I counted six euphoric instrumentals on *Ill Communication.* The most notorious is in the funky and muscular "Futterman's Rule" (complete with Hammond organ and Santana-esque percussion for that extra touch of the psychedelic).

Happily, the Beastie Boys still know how to deal with something that pisses them off. Whenever I hear the thunderously epileptic "Sabotage," a good example of how the Beasties hammer down chaos in three minutes, I feel like getting senselessly violent (recommended at high volumes — not recommended while driving).

So if you gave up on the Beastie Boys in the 80s, there can be only one way to salvation: buy the disc, turn off the lights, push play on the stereo, and repent, repent, repent.❑

Cont'd from page 4

used against the club.

"I understand the difficulty the UVSS is going to have protecting a club that appears to be a lightning rod for controversy. I should expect them to respect the club's right to freedom of speech where that speech is not of a sexist or racist nature," he said.

Blaber argued that the offending list is not sexist because most of the lines are not gender-specific.

The UVSS disagreed. Miko Ross, director of services, asserted the list consistently targeted women. He said repeated references to women's clothing and slang terms such as "babe" and "chick" made it obvious most of the lines referred to women.

In a letter to The Men's Club president, the UVSS has asked him to admit they made a mistake publishing the list.

"A retraction, an apology and a demonstrated recognition of the issue from The Men's Club is in order," the letter stated.

Ross deflected any arguments that suggested the UVSS may be infringing on The Men's Club right to freedom of speech.

"I think the UVSS protects the idea of freedom of speech to the point where it doesn't harm others' rights in society and create harmful ideas which perpetuate actual violence and discrimination."

Nash didn't believe an apology was enough.

"It's just a slap on the wrist," she said. "Unless they can show they've done something really important in the community in the last year [stronger action should be taken.]"

She disagreed that open publication of these ideas is better than having them underground.

"So we should be applauding them about being open about their misogynist ideas? That's ludicrous. It's being used as an excuse, not a reason. There are things that are awful and destructive and this is one of those things."

Nash suggested other concerned students phone the UVSS or leave messages on The Men's Club newsgroup.

"Maybe if people were activists, this wouldn't be perpetuated," she said.❑

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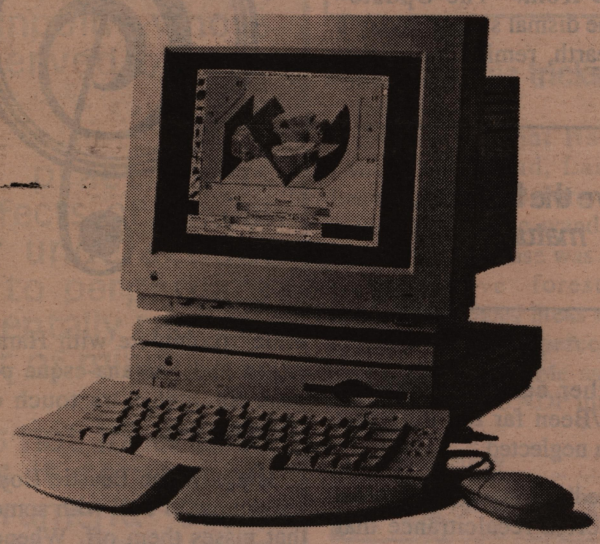

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comix

Martlet Crossword
Market Analysis

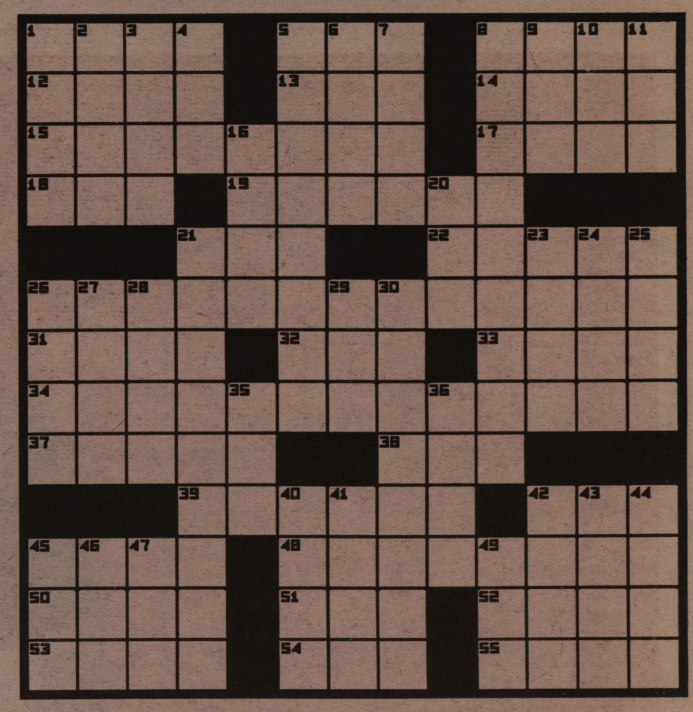
by Daniel Pifko

Across

1 Hebrew month
5 Dehunger
8 Point of change
12 Healthy or robust
13 Rational basis of human conduct, phonetically
14 Prayer completion
15 Trading at a premium to face value
17 Time ratio
18 Botfly larva
19 Fasten again
21 Pyre base
22 One bigger than a fiver
26 Executives' responsibility
31 Buckwheat's utterance
32 UNICEF or World Bank, for example
33 Parisienne thought
34 Financial reports(2 wds)
37 Trombonist's tuner
38 Israeli day
39 Moral high points
42 So ewe say
45 Creditor's right against secured item
48 Future asset, in mining
50 American food authority (abbr)
51 Farmer Brown finale
52 Twisted
53 Dock
54 Large deer
55 British submachine gun

Down

1 Moby's nemesis
2 One of Quark's games
3 100 shares (2 wds)
4 Rotation (abbr)
5 Bronfman co. (2 wds)
6 Oooh follower
7 Pentateuch
8 Seize the day (2 wds)
9 Ms. Thurman, of Kiss Daddy Goodnight fame
10 Collection
11 Vancouver summer fair
16 ____ the Half a Bee
20 Swine pen
21 How to get started in Bahrainian currency (3 wds.)
23 Au naturel
24 &&, in the Eastern Townships
25 Where to find Catchers?
26 Key holders
27 *This,* for example(abbr)
28 Surrealist painter
29 Experience metric
30 In a bull market, the future has this(2 wds)
35 Hooligan
36 Ben Cartwright's son
40 Rigid fencing tool
41 Exterior seed cover
42 Purple vegetable
43 Skin ailment
44 Address specifier (abbr)
45 Chimney
46 Global standards group (abbr)
47 Tokyo, previously
49 American public television



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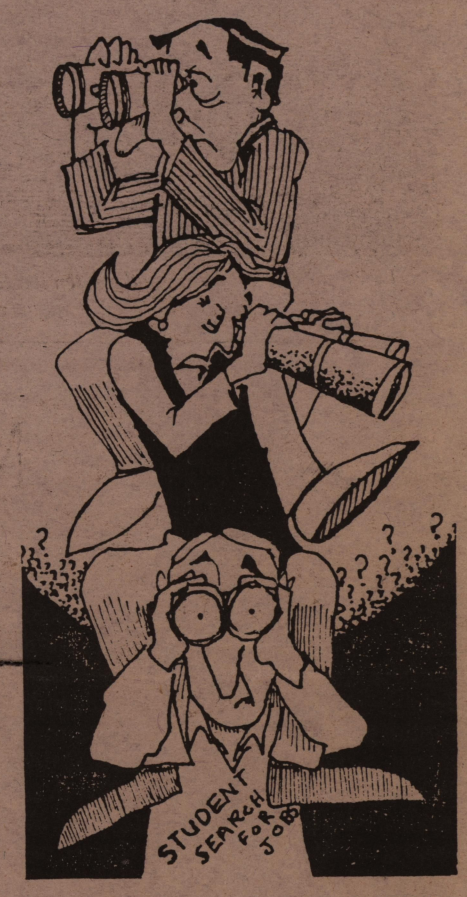

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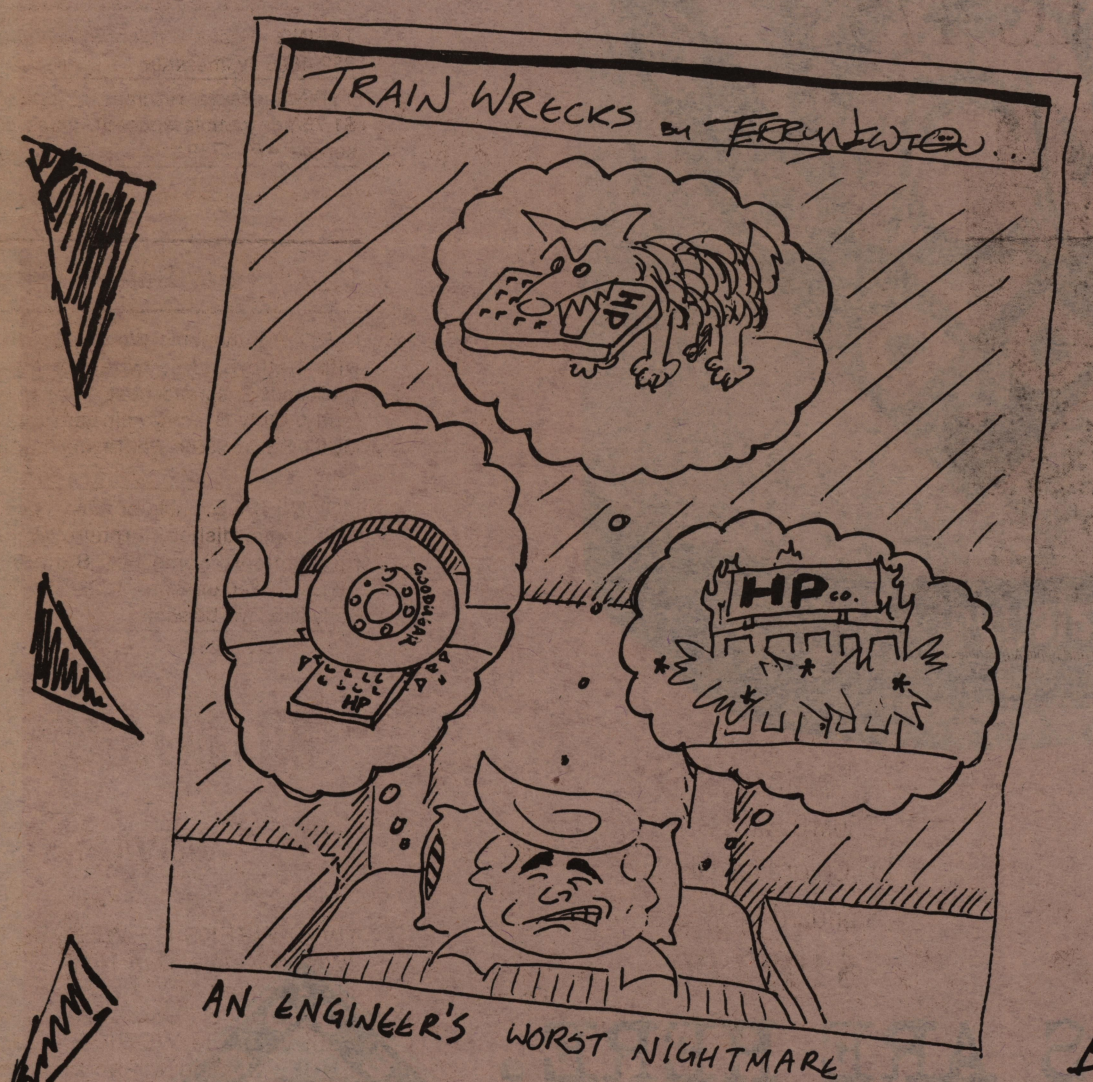

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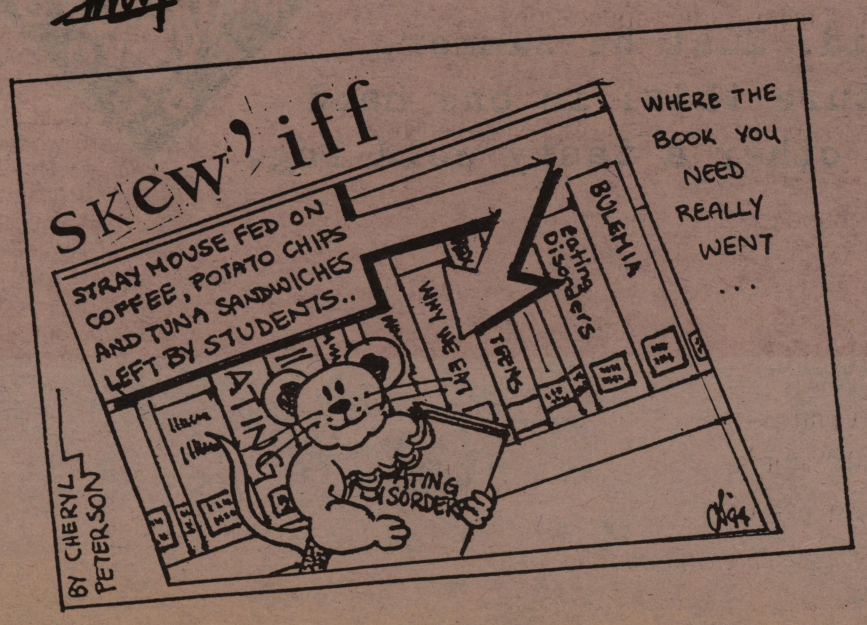
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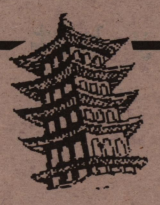

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